

## **Coded Emergency Department Data System (CEDDS)**

The Washington State Department of Health collects health care data from various health care facilities in the state. Major trauma data are collected through the statewide trauma registry system; inpatient hospitalization data are collected through the Comprehensive Hospital Abstract Reporting System (CHARS); Emergency Medical Services data are collected through the Washington Emergency Medical Service Information System (WEMSIS); and birth and death data are collected through vital records. In addition, comprehensive traffic accident data are collected through the Collision Location and Analysis System (CLAS) and the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS). Together, these data sets provide a broad view of health care utilization, health outcomes and traffic accidents in the state of Washington, however an important link is currently missing, namely the collection of hospital Emergency Department (ED) data.

Total charges for ED visits in Washington State are approximately \$2.5 billion per year, resulting from approximately 2.5 million annual ED visits. Collecting data on all ED visits in the state of Washington will serve as a useful tool in driving continuous quality improvement and health-related decision making, and for the assessment of health care utilization, disease surveillance, and health care charges.

The **Coded Emergency Department Data System (CEDDS)** is a pilot project, based at the Washington State Department of Health and funded by Washington Traffic Safety Commission, with the aim of demonstrating the feasibility and utility of collecting ED data in Washington State. During the initial pilot phase, which runs from July 2009 through April 2011, eleven hospital EDs are voluntarily reporting ED data to the Department of Health. Standard billing forms constitute the primary source of data, however, the feasibility of enhancing this dataset with clinical and lab data is being explored. Data are being collected for the time period January 2009 – June 2010.

The CEDDS Recommendations Committee is comprised of 27 representatives from a range of ED data stakeholder groups in the state of Washington, including the pilot hospitals participating in the project, Washington State Hospital Association, UW Injury Prevention and Research Center, American Heart Association, Puget Sound Health Alliance, Inland Northwest Health Systems and the King County Healthcare Coalition to name a few. The aim of the Committee is to guide the direction of the project, weigh in on data quality issues, and to make formal recommendations as to the statewide implementation of ED data collection. The findings of the project and the recommendations of the Committee will be published on the web in the end of project report.

For more information about the CEDDS pilot project, please contact Dr. Wendy Shultis, PhD, CEDDS Project Lead at the Center for Health Statistics, Washington State Department of Health; phone (360) 236-4321 and email [wendy.shultis@doh.wa.gov](mailto:wendy.shultis@doh.wa.gov) or Staci Hoff, MSPH, CEDDS Project Epidemiologist at the Center for Health Statistics, Washington State Department of Health; phone (360) 236-4371 and email [staci.hoff@doh.wa.gov](mailto:staci.hoff@doh.wa.gov).